FALLEN FINEST

DETECTIVES FIRST GRADE RODNEY J. ANDREWS & JAMES V. NEMORIN Firearms Investigation Unit Detective Rodney J. Andrews





n Monday, March 10, 2003, Detectives Rodney J. Andrews and James V. Nemorin were shot and killed during an undercover gun buy operation.

In a deal arranged by a suspect, who previously sold a gun to one of the officers, the undercover detectives drove to a Staten Island location to purchase a semiautomatic pistol. When the suspect became aware that two "buyers" had shown up instead of one, he was unhappy and called the detective he made the deal with on his cell phone. Seeming to accept the bluff that the undercovers were brothers-in-law, the suspect instructed them to let two of his associates into the car and drive to another location to conclude the deal.

During the ride, the detectives electronically signaled to their backups that one of the surveillance cars following them might have been spotted and should back off. When they arrived at the second location to "pick up" the firearm, the surveillance cars rode past the officers to avoid detection. When the suspects left the second location, the car ride resumed. It is believed that they never planned to sell a gun to the detectives, but intended to rob them of the deal money instead.

Shortly before 8:00 pm, backup units electronically heard the suspects demanding to search the detectives. An argument ensued and the suspects ordered the detectives to pull over. One of the suspects drew a .44-caliber gun and fatally shot both detectives in the head. The suspects then dragged the detectives out of the vehicle and fled with the car. Minutes later, backup officers located the detectives lying in the street at the intersection of Hannah Street and Saint Paul's Avenue in the Tompkinsville section of Staten Island.

The manhunt began and within 72 hours, several suspects were arrested. The shooter was found guilty of murder in federal court in December 2006 and sentenced to death. His sentence was later overturned when New York State's death penalty was ruled unconstitutional. However, in July 2013, the suspect was again sentenced to death for the killings.

Both detectives were posthumously promoted to Detective, First Grade and later awarded the Medal of Honor on June 16, 2004.

Detective Rodney J. Andrews, 34 years old, served with the NYPD for seven years. He was survived by former wife, Maryann who is also an NYPD detective; their two sons, Christian and Justin; his father, Rodney Sr. and his mother, Patricia.

Detective James V. Nemorin also served with the Department for seven years, and was 36 years old. He was survived by his wife, RoseAndree; their children, Stephan, Rodolphe and Sarah; his parents, Aubriant and Jeanie; as

